


**REMARKS**

Several of the claims have been amended. Among other things, the amendments place the claims in greater conformance with U.S. practice, such as by eliminating multiple dependent claims. As such, entry of this Preliminary Amendment is solicited prior to calculation of the filing fee. Should the Office have any questions regarding the claim amendments or any other matter, the Office is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

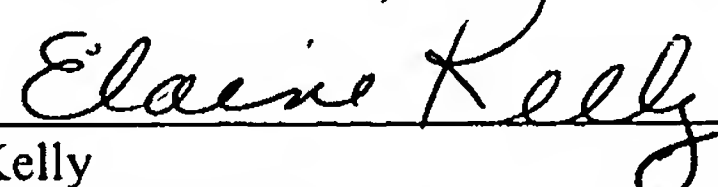


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Date of Deposit June 19, 2006

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